**TO ALL ROMAN SOLDIERS**

COME HOME IMMEDIATELY! DEFEND YOUR CITY FROM THE BARBARIANS WHO ARE THREATENING OUR MAGNIFICENT ROME. LEAVE THE PROVINCES. WE NEED YOU HERE.

You have been away from home so long that you may not realise the terrible things that have been happening in Rome. Once we had strong, enthusiastic leaders who kept our great Empire strong and were respected by everyone. But now our leaders have become lazy and disorganised. They do not care about our great Empire. Because of this, our great armies who used to be loyal and hard working have become lazy also and interested in nothing but drinking and having a good time. They can no longer defend the Empire.

Meanwhile, wild barbarian tribes such as the Vandals and Franks outside the Empire have noticed our weakness and have begun to move inside our boundaries. A fierce tribe called the Huns has been threatening the other tribes and as a result they have been flooding the Empire to get away from the Huns. The tribes are frightened and desperate and are destroying everything we have built. We cannot control them. We are too weak. They are taking over.

Even the Roman people are not helping us as they have lost their faith in us and the Empire. They are poor and unemployed and in their anger will not co-operate with us.

The barbarian tribes are getting closer and closer to Rome. We are in terrible trouble. These people are totally uncivilised, destroying buildings, burning villages and torturing our people. You must come home and save our magnificent city and civilisation from ruin.

*The Senate of Rome*